

GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Puget Sound Regional Council Board Room

MEETING SUMMARY

Please note that this meeting summary was prepared without the benefit of an audio tape of the meeting. The written notes of staff from several different jurisdictions were consulted in preparing this summary.

Members Present: Executive Dow Constantine, Chair; Councilmember Layne Barnes, Councilmember Terri Briere, Walt Cantor, Councilmember Mark Cross, Councilmember Dini Duclos, Councilmember Chris Eggen, Councilmember Jean Godden, Councilmember Jane Hague, Councilmember Ken Hearing, Councilmember Lucy Krakowiak, Mayor Mike McGinn, Councilmember Larry Phillips, Councilmember Jamie Perry, Councilmember Jennifer Robertson, Councilmember Robert Sternoff

Chair Constantine convened the meeting at 4:08 PM.

I. Public Comment and Minutes:

There were no public comments.

The summary of the September 16, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

The summary of the October 28, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

II. Work Plan for the Overall Update of the CPPs

Executive Constantine called on Lisa Voight of King County to review the work plan for the overall update of the CPPs. Her presentation to the GMPC is attached to this meeting summary.

Councilmember Krakowiak asked why “contiguous and orderly development” is in the Environment Chapter. Staff responded that the proposal for the contiguous and orderly development policies is to distribute them to the relevant subject areas across the chapters.

Councilmember Hague asked if the CPP update was more ministerial than substantive since VISION 2040 has been approved by the jurisdictions. Staff

responded that VISION 2040 actually directs changes to the countywide planning policies and further analysis will determine what could become controversial and what will be purely administrative.

Councilmember Cross asked if climate change would be a substantive part of the update. Staff responded that climate change goals are specified in VISION 2040 and should be addressed in the CPPs.

Councilmember Barnes asked if the Council would be ready to vote on the three policy amendments regarding the resources to serve growth and density April 28th. Councilmember Sternoff noted that he did not think they would be ready.

Chair Constantine asked staff to monitor the work plan and moved the meeting to the second agenda item to continue the discussion of the handling of resources to serve growth and density.

III. Resources to Serve Growth and Density

Chair Constantine called on Tom Hauger of the City of Seattle and Michael Hubner of the Suburban Cities Association to discuss the staff recommendation for amendments to three CPP policies regarding resources to serve growth and density.

Mayor McGuinn questioned staff about defining regional services and policies specifically as they relate to highway expansion. Staff responded that there is not a single entity across the county providing the service and that approach is to focus on “services” as opposed to “infrastructure.”

Chair Constantine asked staff to help the GMPC understand how road building impacts growth and to identify where this discussion should logically take place.

Chair Constantine asked what “planned” referred to in policy T-14. Staff responded that it referred to the growth targets contained within each jurisdiction’s comprehensive plan.

Councilmember Sternoff commented that there is not consensus among the SCA members on wording for the three policy amendments and that SCA wants to continue the discussion.

Councilmember Phillips asked staff why “cooperatively planned and financed” is proposed to be deleted from policy FW-18 and “coordinated financing” from FW-19. Staff responded that there are other policies dealing with financing but they would look at this further

Councilmember Sternoff commented that the framework for these policies may be more appropriately addressed by the Regional Transit Task Force as a precursor to GMPC approving the CPP amendments. Cited concern that areas that “want to grow” won’t necessarily be served to do so with existing language.

Councilmember Cross commented that if a city works to be “transit ready” they want certainty that bus service will be there.

Chair Constantine directed staff to investigate how to link the process of the GMPC with the process of the Transit Task Force and to make sure they were coordinated.

Councilmember Phillips recommended that at a minimum, staff work done to date should be shared with the Transit Task Force as they proceed with their recommendations.

Councilmember Sternoff reiterated that cities need to be assured that if they invest in infrastructure that “the busses will show up.” Councilmember Krakowiak suggested edits to policy T-14 to ensure transit service distribution is equitable.

Chair Constantine acknowledged that this is more than a matter of clarifying language, but a fundamental disagreement requiring a regional discussion for its resolution. Chair Constantine suggested that perhaps the region would be in a better position in reaching consensus on transit service priorities in going to Olympia to ask for financing to support transit service where development is built to support it.

Councilmember Barnes stressed the need to be flexible in drafting policies that set transit service priorities.

Councilmember Phillips stated that there are three gaps: (1) existing underserved areas; (2) areas where land use changes have been made to support transit but where there is no money for transit service; and (3) areas planning for growth and transit supportive land use.

Chair Constantine directed staff to bring back ideas on how to “sync” this work with that of the Transit Task Force to the next meeting of the GMPC on April 28, 2010.

IV. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.